

1991

# Industrial Resources: Letcher County

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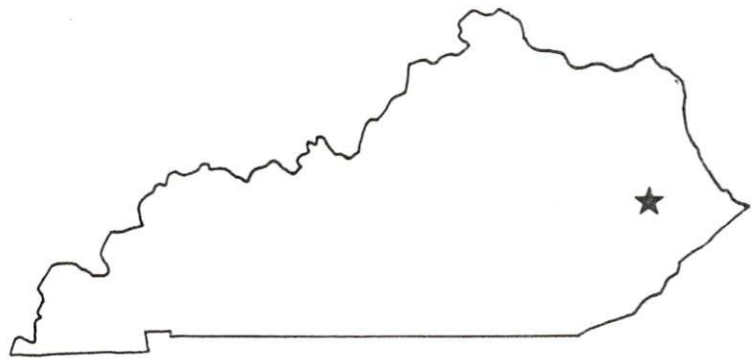
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*Resources for Economic Development*

# Letcher County



**KENTUCKY**  
*Open for Business*

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RESOURCES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
LETCHER COUNTY, KENTUCKY

Prepared by  
The Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development  
Division of Research and Planning  
in cooperation with  
The Letcher County Chamber of Commerce;  
The Letcher County Fiscal Court  
and  
The Cities of Whitesburg and Jenkins

1991

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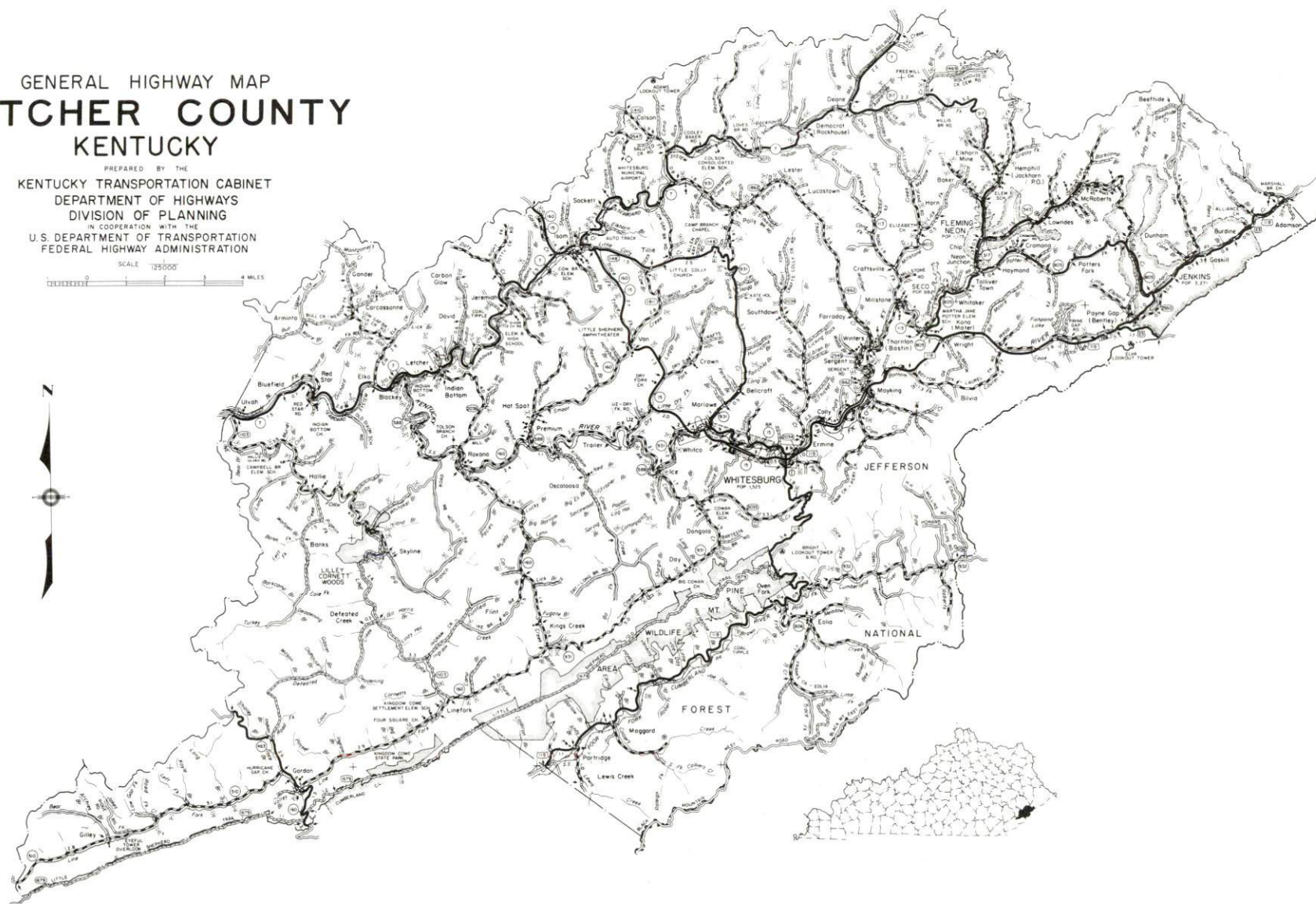
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GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP  
**LETCHER COUNTY**  
KENTUCKY

PREPARED BY THE  
KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS  
DIVISION OF PLANNING  
IN COOPERATION WITH THE  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

SCALE 1:25,000  
0 1 2 3 4 MILES



## LETCHER COUNTY, KENTUCKY - A RESOURCE PROFILE

Letcher County, with a 1990 population of 27,000, has a land area of 339 square miles. Whitesburg, the county seat of Letcher County, is located in southeastern Kentucky. In 1990, Whitesburg had a population of 1,636. Whitesburg is located 149 miles southeast of Lexington, Kentucky; 159 miles northeast of Knoxville, Tennessee; 222 miles southeast of Louisville, Kentucky; and 217 miles southeast of Cincinnati, Ohio. Jenkins, located 12 miles northeast of Whitesburg, had a 1990 population of 2,751.

**The Economic Framework** - The total number of Letcher County residents employed in 1990 averaged 8,676. Manufacturing firms in the county reported 39 employees; wholesale and retail trade provided 1,201 jobs; 1,204 people were employed in service occupations; state and local government accounted for 1,088 employees; and 2,088 people were employed by mining and quarrying operations.

**Labor Supply** - There is a current estimated labor supply of 50,096 persons available for industrial jobs in the labor market area. In addition, from 1992 through 1996, 16,599 young persons in the area will become 18 years of age and potentially available for industrial jobs.

**Transportation** - Whitesburg is served directly by highways U.S. 119 and Kentucky 15. U.S. Highway 23 serves Jenkins. The Daniel Boone Parkway is located 35 miles northwest of Whitesburg, while Interstate 75 is located 92 miles west of Whitesburg. Fifteen trucking companies provide Letcher County with interstate and/or intrastate service. CSX Transportation provides main line rail service to Whitesburg, Jenkins and Letcher County. Lonesome Pine Airport, 29 miles south of Whitesburg, maintains a 5,400-foot paved runway. Tri-City Airport, near Bristol, Tennessee, 97 miles southeast of Whitesburg, provides the nearest scheduled commercial airline service.

**Power and Fuel** - Kentucky Power Company provides electric power to Whitesburg, Jenkins, and Letcher County. Letcher County is also provided electric power by Cumberland Valley Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation. Natural gas service is currently only available at private wells in Letcher County.

**Education** - Primary and secondary education is provided to Whitesburg and Letcher County by the Letcher County School System. The Jenkins Independent School System, located in Jenkins, Kentucky, 12 miles northeast of Whitesburg, also provides education for Letcher County. A nonpublic school also operates in the county. Eleven institutions of higher learning are located within 100 miles of Whitesburg. Vocational training is provided by Letcher County Area Vocational Education Center in Whitesburg and the Hazard State Vocational-Technical School in Hazard, 31 miles northwest of Whitesburg.



With  
MAJOR HIGHWAYS & RAILROAD SYSTEM

Shaded area denotes Labor Market Area

## LABOR MARKET STATISTICS

The Letcher County Labor Market Area includes Letcher County and the adjoining Kentucky counties of Harlan, Knott, Perry, and Pike. The southeastern boundary of Letcher County is formed by the Kentucky-Virginia state line. The Labor Market Area may be supplemented by Wise County, Virginia.

POPULATION			
	<u>1990</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1970</u>
Labor Market Area	184,346	205,402	162,551
Whitesburg	1,636	1,525	1,137
Fleming-Neon	759	1,195	N/A
Jenkins	2,751	3,271	2,552
Letcher County	27,000	30,687	23,165

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, January 1991.

POPULATION PROJECTIONS				
	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2030</u>
Labor Market Area	216,800	225,400	228,280	225,900
Letcher County	31,230	32,440	32,900	32,700

Source: University of Louisville, Urban Studies Center, State Data Center.

ESTIMATED LABOR SUPPLY					
	Current			Not in Labor Force	Future Becoming 18 years of age 1992 thru 1996
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Unemployed</u>	<u>Employed Part-Time</u>		
Labor Market Area*	50,096	5,807	7,343	36,946	16,599
Letcher County	7,773	715	1,265	5,793	2,462

\* Additional workers may be drawn from other nearby counties.

Note: Unemployed - persons unemployed and actively seeking work; Employed Part-Time - persons employed but working only 14 to 26 weeks per year; Not in Labor Force - represents the number of persons who would enter the labor force if suitable employment were available (based on the assumption that persons in Kentucky would like to participate in the labor force in the same proportion that they do nationally).

Sources: Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources, Kentucky Labor Supply Estimates by County, 1989. Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, Future Labor Supply Becoming 18 Years of Age, 1992 thru 1996.

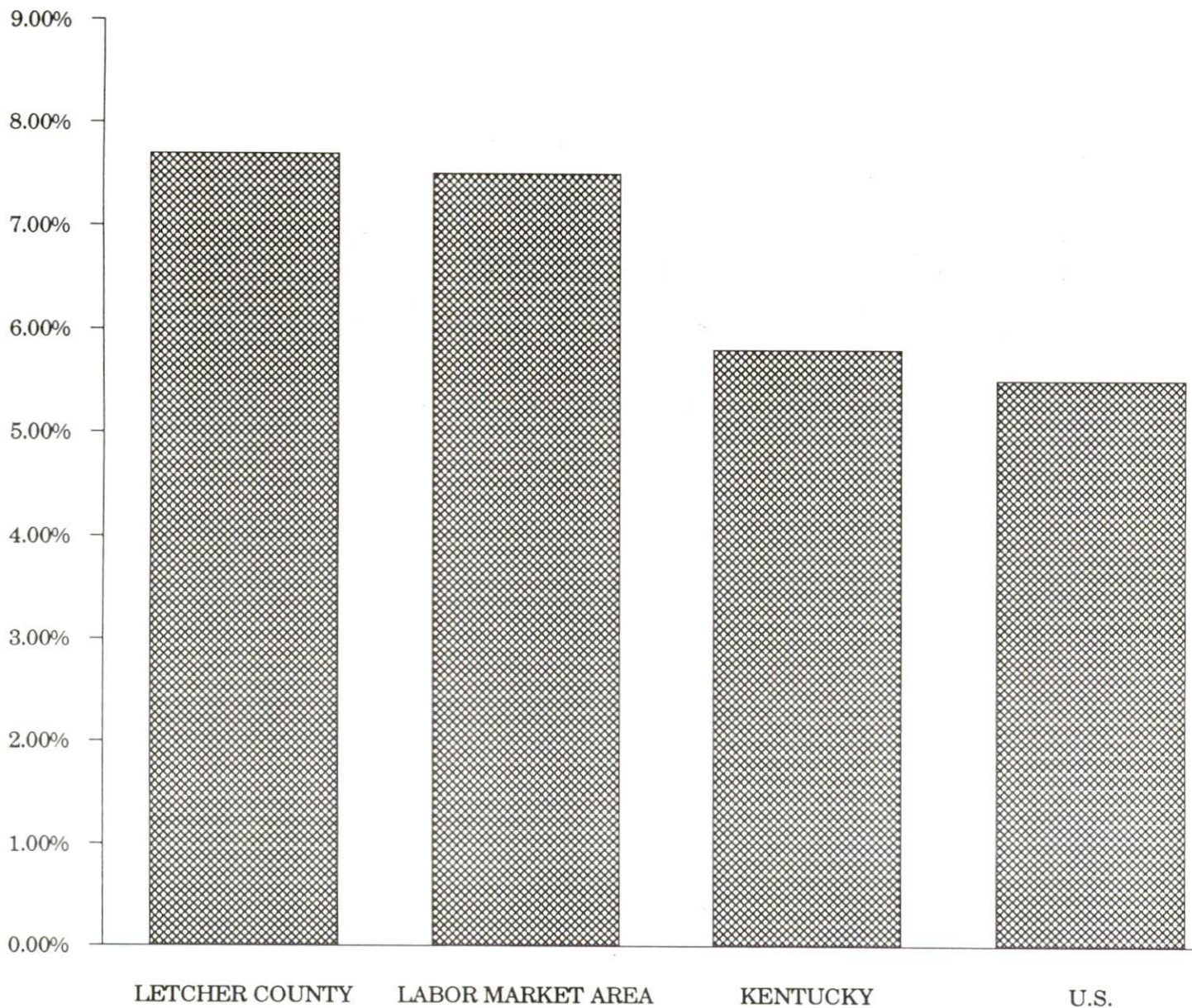


# LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS OF RESIDENTS, 1990

	<u>Letcher County</u>	<u>Labor Market Area</u>
Civilian Labor Force	9,401	62,390
Employment	8,676	57,721
Unemployment	725	4,669
Rate of Unemployment (%)	7.7	7.5

Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources, Kentucky Labor Force Estimates, Annual Averages, 1990.

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATES 1990



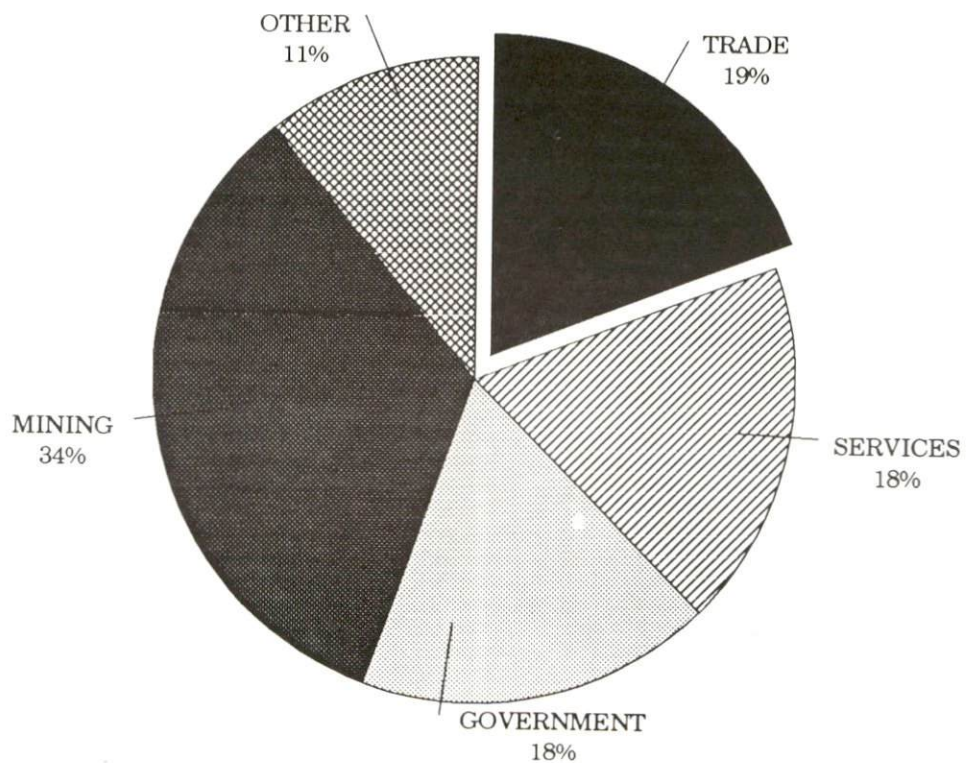
SELECTED COMPONENTS OF NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT  
BY PLACE OF WORK, 1989

	<u>Letcher County</u>	<u>Labor Market Area</u>
All Industries (total)	5,963	47,561
Manufacturing	33	792
Wholesale & Retail Trade	1,151	11,185
Services	1,090	7,777
State/Local Government	1,081	8,154
Mining & Quarrying	2,008	14,295

Note: Excludes domestic workers, railway workers, certain nonprofit corporations, majority of federal government workers, and self-employed workers.

Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources, Average Monthly Workers Covered by Kentucky Unemployment Insurance Law, 1989.

LETCHER COUNTY



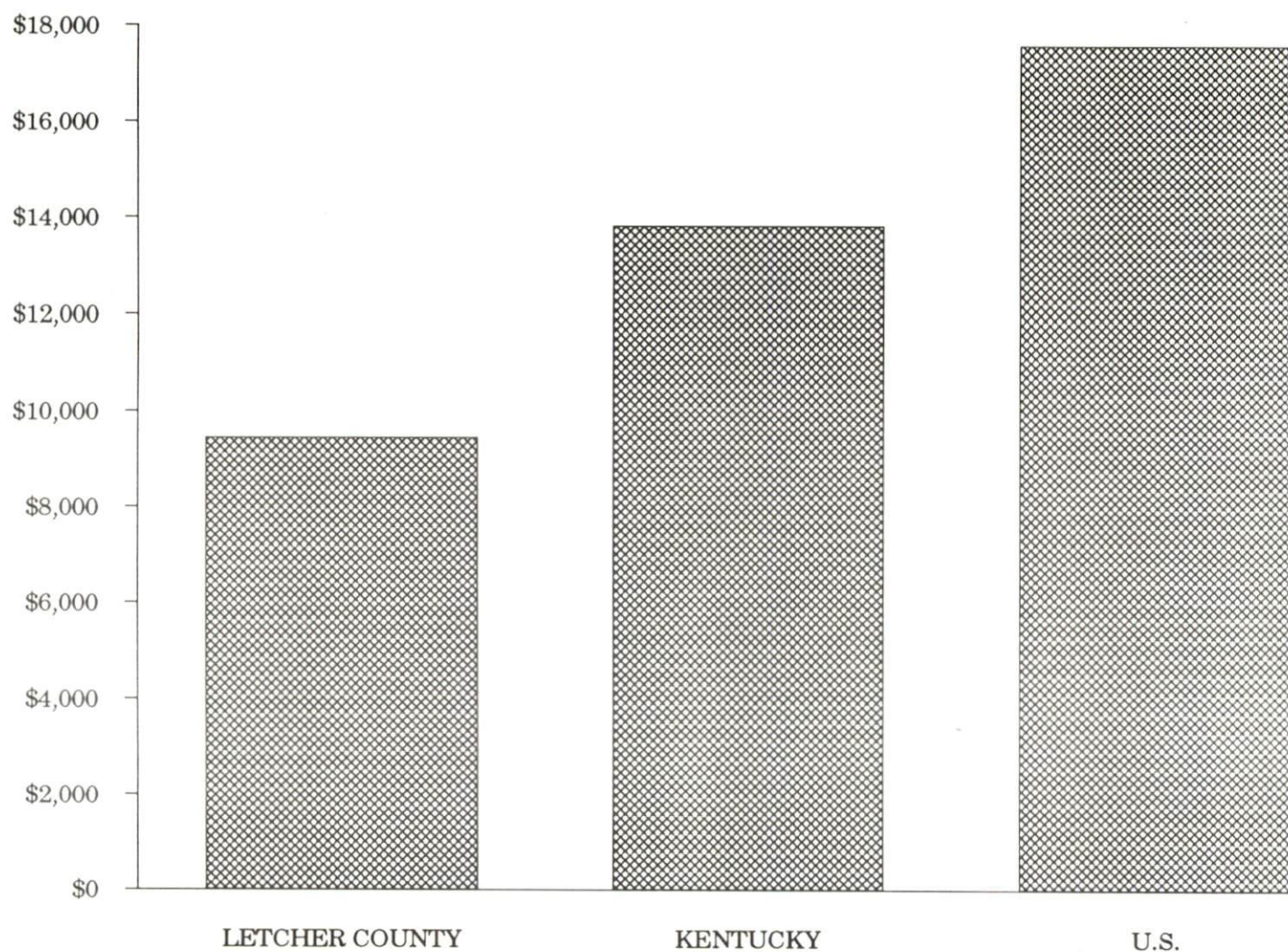


PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME

Area	1985	1989	Percent Change
Letcher County	\$7,290	\$9,446	29.6
Labor Market Area Range	\$6,868 - \$9,410	\$8,216 - \$10,969	-
Kentucky	\$10,755	\$13,823	28.5
U.S.	\$13,899	\$17,594	26.6

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Kentucky Economic Information System, April 1990.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME  
1989





## AVERAGE PLACEMENT WAGES

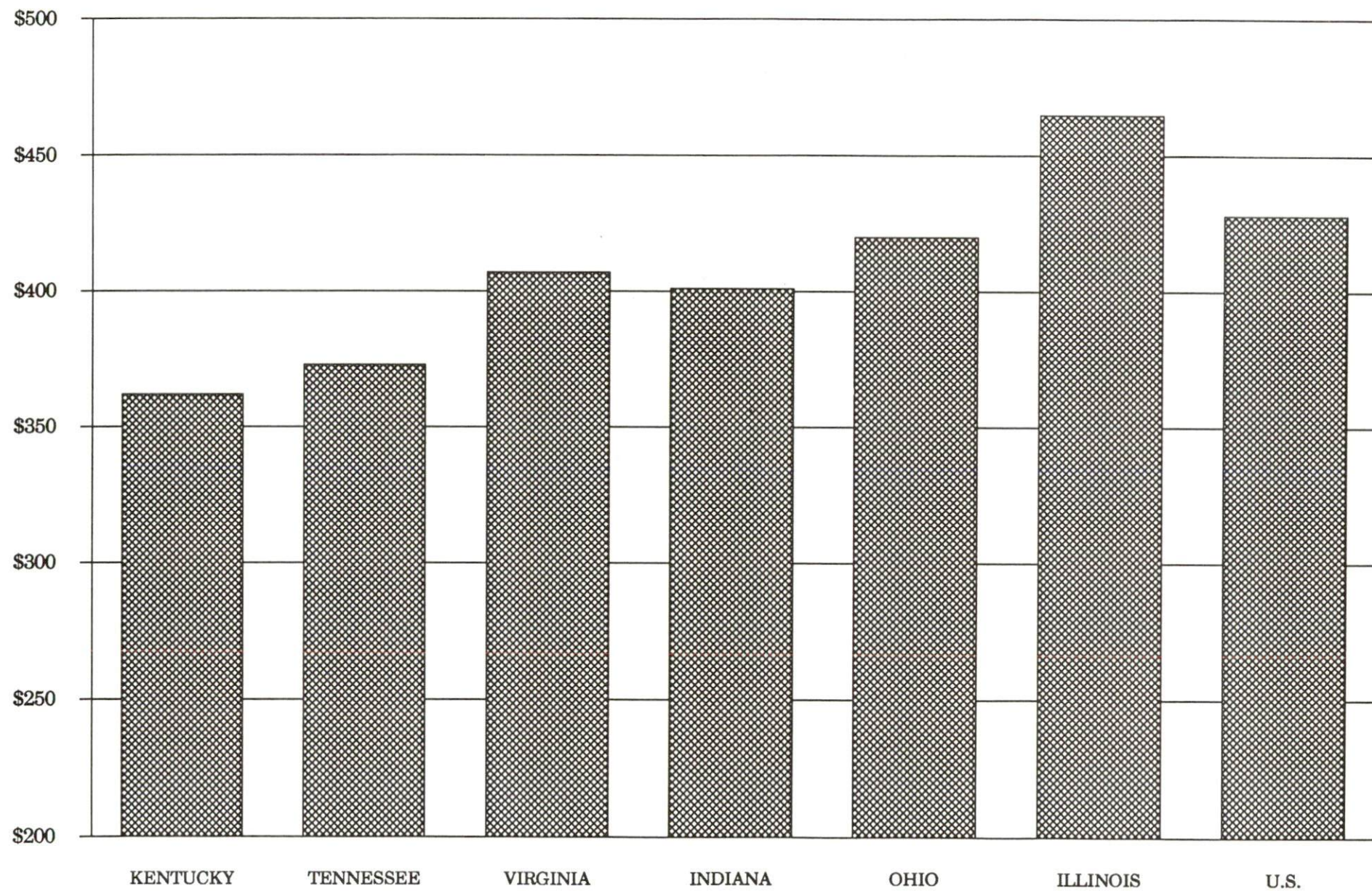
Letcher County is served by the Hazard local office of the Kentucky Department for Employment Services. The focus of the following data is on job placements made by the Hazard local office and may therefore be used as an indicator of the wages which employers in the area pay new employees. During the twelve months which ended on June 30, 1990, the local employment office filled 1,392 job openings in various occupational categories. The average hourly wage for selected occupational categories were:

<u>OCCUPATIONAL CATEGORY</u>	<u>NUMBER OF PLACEMENTS</u>	<u>AVERAGE WAGE(\$)</u>
All Occupations	1,392	4.02
Clerical	483	3.73
Sales	54	4.02
Services (excluding domestic)	483	3.35
Agricultural, Fishery, Forestry, etc.	5	3.75
Processing	12	5.54
Machine Trades	29	4.42
Bench Work	2	5.53
Structural	161	5.35
Motor Freight/ Transportation	42	4.96
Packaging and Materials Handling	46	3.66
Other	33	8.75

The Hazard local office also serves Breathitt, Knott, Lee, Leslie, Owsley, Perry, and Wolfe Counties. The above occupational categories are taken from the Dictionary of Occupational Titles published by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources, Department for Employment Services.

AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES OF WORKERS COVERED BY  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE - 1989





AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES BY INDUSTRY  
BY PLACE OF WORK, 1989\*

	<u>Letcher County</u>	<u>Kentucky (State- Wide)</u>	<u>Tennessee</u>	<u>Virginia</u>
All Industries	\$371.92	\$362.03	\$373.00	\$407.00
Mining & Quarrying	562.65	623.82	522.00	576.00
Contract Construction	257.32	388.21	407.00	434.00
Manufacturing	222.28	472.92	431.00	470.00
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	325.28	482.22	493.00	575.00
Wholesale & Retail Trade	209.75	245.12	N/A	N/A
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	318.97	417.89	448.00	488.00
Services	299.77	310.29	357.00	409.00
State/Local Government	300.49	370.61	N/A	N/A
	<u>Indiana</u>	<u>Ohio</u>	<u>Illinois</u>	<u>U. S.</u>
All Industries	\$401.00	\$420.00	\$465.00	\$428.00
Mining & Quarrying	693.00	596.00	707.00	688.00
Contract Construction	464.00	480.00	608.00	485.00
Manufacturing	546.00	580.00	566.00	534.00
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	504.00	533.00	582.00	556.00
Wholesale & Retail Trade	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	418.00	456.00	594.00	544.00
Services	328.00	360.00	419.00	399.00
State/Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

\* Wages for U.S. and surrounding states rounded to nearest dollar.

N/A Not Available.

Note: The average weekly wage for each category includes the salaries and wages of all persons working for that type business. For example, the manufacturing category includes both production workers and administrative personnel. Excludes domestic workers, railway workers, certain nonprofit corporations, majority of federal government workers, and self-employed workers.

Source: Kentucky Cabinet for Human Resources, Average Weekly Wages of Workers Covered by Kentucky Unemployment Insurance Law, 1989. U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Wages, Annual Averages, 1989, October 1990.

## EXISTING INDUSTRY

### LETCHER COUNTY MANUFACTURING FIRMS, THEIR PRODUCTS AND EMPLOYMENT

<u>Firm</u> <u>(Establishment date)</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>1990</u> <u>Average Employment</u>
<b>Colson</b>		
Whitesburg Redi-Mix (1984)	Ready-mixed concrete	4
<b>Cromona</b>		
Superior Printing & Publishing Company, Inc. (1954)	Newspapers, letterpress printing, lithographic printing	12
<b>Etty</b>		
Coolidge Johnson Lumber Company (1957)	Sawmill	9
<b>Ermine</b>		
Custom Concrete, Inc. (1989)	Ready-mixed concrete	4
<b>Isom</b>		
M & R Lumber Company (1989)	Lumber, logs, mine timbers	21
<b>Jackhorn</b>		
Johnson's Printing (1989)	Commercial printing	1
<b>Jenkins</b>		
Adams Concrete Company (1971)	Concrete block	10
Adams Stone Corporation (1959)	Bituminous concrete, agricultural lime, concrete block	35
<b>Whitesburg</b>		
Eagle Printing Company (1946)	Commercial printing	4
Heritage Chair (1988)	Office chairs	7
Royal Crown Bottling Company, Inc. (1947)	Beverage bottling	12

Sources: Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, Division of Research and Planning; Letcher County Chamber of Commerce.

## LABOR ORGANIZATIONS IN MANUFACTURING FIRMS

<u>Union</u>	<u>Representing workers at:</u>
United Steelworkers of America, AFL-CIO-CLC	Adams Concrete Company; Adams Stone Corporation

## SELECTED INDUSTRIAL SERVICES

<u>Types of Services</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Mileage from Whitesburg</u>
Custom Data Processing	Prestonsburg, Kentucky	81
Custom Plastics Producers	Middlesboro, Kentucky	92
Electric Motor Repair	Harlan, Kentucky	46
Grinding, Precision & Tool	Winchester, Kentucky	130
Heat Treating Facilities	Morristown, Tennessee	133
Industrial Equipment & Supplies	Lexington, Kentucky	149
Industrial Gases	Prestonsburg, Kentucky	81
Industrial Waste Removal	London, Kentucky	90
Machine Shops, Tool & Die	Harlan, Kentucky	46
	Pikeville, Kentucky	49
Metal Castings	Middlesboro, Kentucky	92
Metal Finishers	Lexington, Kentucky	149
Metal Service Centers	Pikeville, Kentucky	49
Millwrights	Stanton, Kentucky	105
Public Warehouse Facilities	Lexington, Kentucky	149

Sources: Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, Division of Research and Planning.



## TRANSPORTATION

### Highways

Whitesburg is served directly by U.S. Highway 119 and Kentucky Route 15, both "AAA"-rated (80,000-pound gross load limit) trucking highways. Jenkins is served directly by U.S. Highway 23, a "AAA"-rated trucking highway. The Daniel Boone Parkway, a multi-lane toll road, is located 35 miles northwest of Whitesburg via Kentucky Route 15. Interstate 75 is located 92 miles west of Whitesburg via Kentucky Route 15 and the Daniel Boone Parkway.

Two major highway improvement projects are under way in Letcher County including the widening and straightening of U.S. 119 near Whitesburg. U.S. 23 and 119 at Jenkins is being widened to four lanes.

U.S. Highway 23 extends from Michigan to Florida and is predominately four lanes throughout the highway system. Construction is planned to widen the entire highway to four lanes. U.S. 23 and Alternate U.S. 58 in Virginia provide multi-lane access to Interstate 81, 74 miles southeast of Letcher County.

#### HIGHWAY MILES FROM WHITESBURG, KENTUCKY, TO SELECTED MARKET CENTERS

City	Highway Miles	City	Highway Miles
Atlanta, GA	353	Los Angeles, CA	2,284
Baltimore, MD	467	Louisville, KY	222
Birmingham, AL	409	Nashville, TN	311
Chicago, IL	492	New Orleans, LA	748
Cincinnati, OH	217	New York, NY	667
Cleveland, OH	408	Pittsburgh, PA	377
Detroit, MI	456	St. Louis, MO	480
Knoxville, TN	159		

Note: Mileage computations are via the best interstate or primary highways, not necessarily the most direct route of travel.

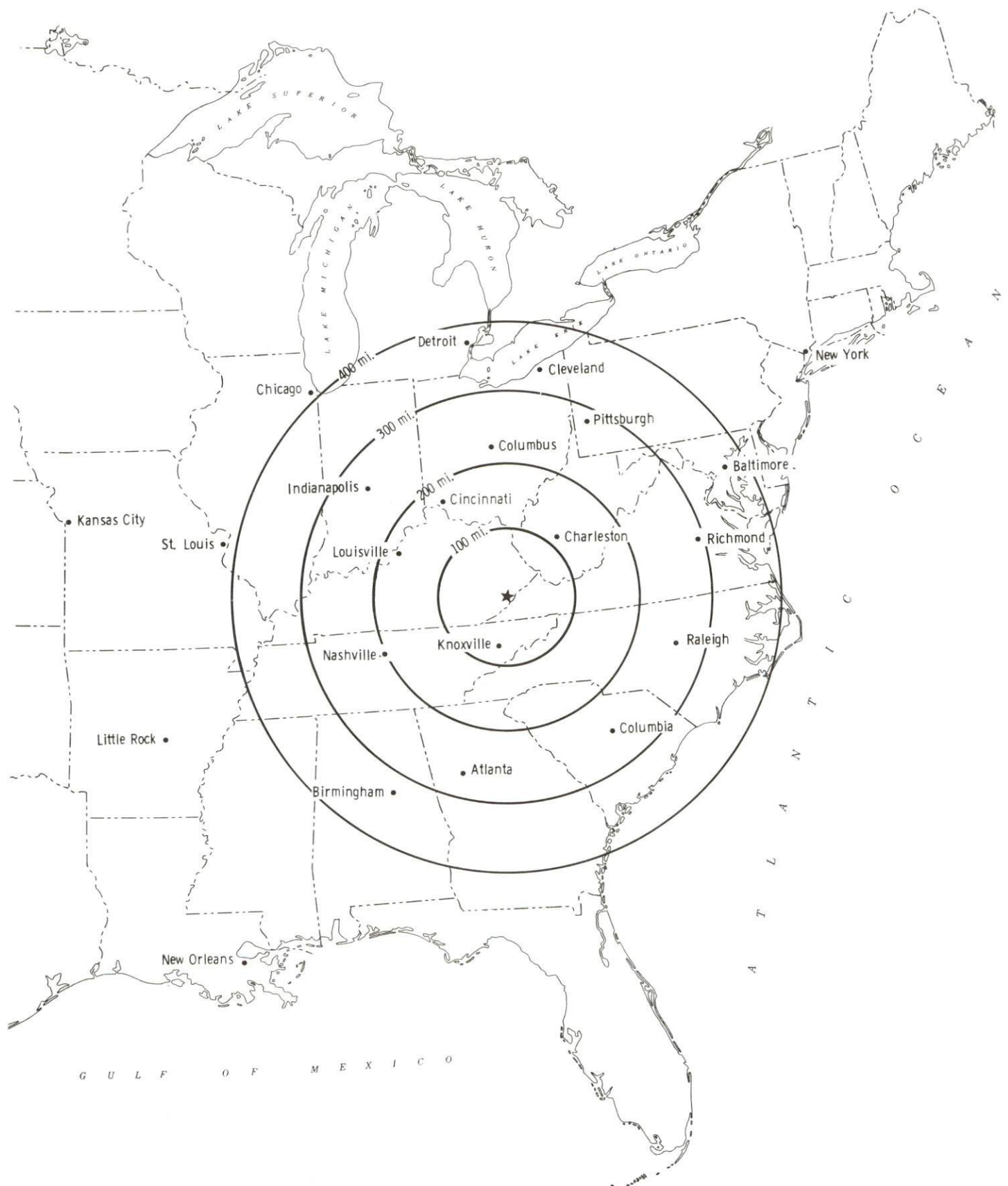
Sources: Rand McNally Deluxe Motor Carriers' Road Atlas, 1989. Official Kentucky Mileage Map, 1980.

### Truck Service

Fifteen common carrier trucking companies provide interstate and/or intrastate service to Letcher County.

Source: American Motor Carrier Directory, Fall 1991.

## Selected Market Centers



## Rail

CSX Transportation provides main line rail service to Whitesburg, Jenkins, and Letcher County. Norfolk Southern provides the nearest piggyback facilities which are located at Kingsport, Tennessee, 79 miles southeast of Whitesburg.

For details on routing, schedules, rates, and services contact:

Manager  
Industrial Development  
CSX Transportation  
9420 Bunsen Parkway  
Suite 212  
Louisville, Kentucky 40220  
(502) 499-3025

## Air

### Nearest Small Craft Airport

Location:	Lonesome Pine Airport
Runways:	Wise, Virginia, 29 miles south of Whitesburg
Length:	1 paved
Traffic	5,400 feet
Control:	Unicom, rotating beacon
Lighting:	Sunset to sunrise
Services:	100LL and jet-A fuel; minor A & P repairs; hangar, tie-downs; flight instruction; courtesy car; aircraft sales

### Nearest Scheduled Commercial Airline Service

Location:	Tri-City Airport
	14 miles southwest of Bristol, Tennessee;
	97 miles southeast of Whitesburg
Air Service:	USAir, American Eagle, Atlantic Southeast, ComAir, C.C. Air, Delta
Daily Arrivals & Departures:	74

## UTILITIES

### Electricity

Company serving Whitesburg, Jenkins and the northern portion of  
Letcher County - Kentucky Power Company  
Source of power - Kentucky Power Company  
For industrial rates contact:

Kentucky Power Company  
1701 Central Avenue  
P. O. Box 1428  
Ashland, Kentucky 41101  
(606) 327-1111

Company serving the southern portion of Letcher County - Cumberland  
Valley Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation  
Source of power - East Kentucky Power Cooperative  
For industrial rates contact:

Industrial Development Division  
East Kentucky Power Cooperative  
P. O. Box 707  
Winchester, Kentucky 40392-0707  
(606) 744-4812

and/or

Cumberland Valley Rural Electric  
Cooperative Corporation  
U.S. Highway 25E  
Gray, Kentucky 40734  
(606) 528-2677 or (606) 546-9295

### Natural Gas

Natural gas is only available in Letcher County through local private wells.  
Public natural gas service is not available in Letcher County at the present time.

### Public Water Supply

Company serving Whitesburg - Whitesburg Waterworks  
112 North Webb Avenue  
Whitesburg, Kentucky 41858  
(606) 633-2737

Source -	North Fork of the Kentucky River
Treatment plant capacity -	500,000 gallons per day
Average daily consumption -	300,000 gallons
Peak daily consumption -	375,000 gallons
Storage capacity -	515,000 gallons
Water pressure -	90 psi to 120 psi

Funding has been approved for the construction of a new water treatment facility for Whitesburg. Projected completion date is 1993.



Company serving **Jenkins** - City of Jenkins Water Department  
P.O. Box 689  
Jenkins, Kentucky 41537  
(606) 832-4218

Source - Elkhorn Lake  
Treatment plant capacity - 1,000,000 gallons per day  
Average daily consumption - 500,000 gallons  
Peak daily consumption - 550,000 gallons  
Storage capacity - 400,000 gallons  
Water pressure - 90 psi to 135 psi

#### Sewerage

Company serving **Whitesburg** - Whitesburg Waterworks  
112 North Webb Avenue  
Whitesburg, Kentucky 41858  
(606) 633-2737

Design capacity - 500,000 gallons per day  
Average daily flow - 200,000 gallons  
Type of treatment - Primary  
Treated effluent discharged into - North Fork of the Kentucky River

The City of Whitesburg recently completed a renovation project for its existing wastewater treatment plant. The \$730,000 project included a new grit removal building, new sludge drying beds and post aeration facilities.

Company serving **Jenkins** - Jenkins Wastewater Treatment Plant  
P.O. Box 689  
Jenkins, Kentucky 41537  
(606) 832-4421

Design capacity - 600,000 gallons per day  
Average daily flow - At capacity  
Type of treatment - Secondary  
Treated effluent discharged into - Elkhorn Creek

The City of Jenkins recently completed construction of a wastewater treatment plant. Construction is planned for the renovation of existing sewer lines which will address inflow and infiltration problems. Upon completion, the average daily flow will be substantially reduced.



## CLIMATE

### Letcher County

#### Temperature

Normal (29-year record)	55.90 degrees
Average annual 1989	55.50 degrees
Record highest, July 1952 (44-year record)	102.00 degrees
Record lowest, January 1985 (44 year record)	-21.00 degrees
Normal heating degree days (29-year record)	4,356
(Heating degree day totals are the sums of negative departures of average daily temperatures from 65 degrees F.)	

#### Precipitation

Normal (29-year record)	41.24 inches
Mean annual snowfall (52-year record)	16.50 inches
Total precipitation 1989	47.84 inches
Mean number days precipitation (.01 inch or more) (44-year record)	133.40
Mean number days thunderstorms (46-year record)	43.20

#### Prevailing winds (through 1963)

Northeast

#### Relative Humidity (27-year record)

1 a.m.	81 percent
7 a.m.	86 percent
1 p.m.	57 percent
7 p.m.	63 percent

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Environmental Science Services Administration, Climatological Data, 1989. Station of record: Bristol, Johnson City, Kingsport, Tennessee.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

### Structure

Letcher County is governed by a county judge/executive and five magistrates. Each official serves a four-year term. Whitesburg and Jenkins are each governed by a mayor and six council members. Both mayors serve four-year terms, while the council members each serve two-year terms.

### Planning and Zoning

City agency - City of Whitesburg Planning and Zoning Commission

Zoning enforced - Within city only

Subdivision regulations enforced - Within city only

Local codes enforced - Building and housing

Mandatory state codes enforced - Kentucky Plumbing Code, National Electric Code, Kentucky Boiler Regulations and Standards, Kentucky Building Code (modeled after BOCA code)

### Local Fees and Licenses

The City of Whitesburg levies a business license fee of \$75 for the first year for most businesses. Then each year thereafter, the fee is based on annual retail sales receipts.

## PROPERTY TAXES

The Kentucky Constitution requires the state to tax all classes of taxable property, and state statutes allow local jurisdictions to tax only a few classes. All locally taxed property is subject to county taxes and school district taxes (either a county school district or an independent school district). Property located inside of city limits may also be subject to city property taxes.

Special local taxing jurisdictions (fire protection districts, watershed districts, and sanitation districts) levy taxes within their operating areas (usually a small portion of community or county).

Property assessments in Kentucky are at 100% fair cash value. A 15% reduction is automatically granted for accounts receivable.

### STATE PROPERTY TAX RATES PER \$100 VALUATION

<u>Selected Classes of Property</u>	<u>1990 State Rate</u>	<u>Local Taxation Permitted</u>
Real Estate	\$0.189	YES
Manufacturing Machinery	0.150	NO
Pollution Control Equipment	0.150	NO
Inventories		
Raw Materials	0.050	NO
Goods in Process	0.050	NO
Finished Goods	0.050	YES
Motor Vehicles	0.450	YES
Other Tangible Personal Property	0.450	YES
Intangibles (Accounts Receivable, Money on Hand)	0.250	NO

### LOCAL PROPERTY TAX RATES PER \$100 VALUATION, 1990

<u>Taxing Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Real Estate</u>	<u>Finished Goods &amp; Tangibles</u>	<u>Motor Vehicles</u>
Letcher County	\$ N/A	\$ N/A	\$0.2552
School Districts:			
Jenkins Independent	0.7710	0.7710	0.1089
Letcher County	0.4000	0.4000	0.3830
Cities:			
Whitesburg	N/A	N/A	0.3400
Jenkins	0.4000	0.4000	0.4000

## EDUCATION

### Public Schools

	Jenkins Independent	Letcher County
Total Enrollment (Fall, 1990)	955	4,936
Accreditation		Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
Pupil-Teacher Ratio (1989-90)	18.9-1	18.8-1
Percent High School Graduates to College (1989-90)	65.2	48.1
Expenditures Per Pupil (1989-90)	\$2,780.72	\$2,469.77

The Jenkins Independent School System plans to renovate and expand the existing high school building. Details include: a four-classroom expansion; and a renovation of the cafeteria, art room, and entrance. Total cost of the project will exceed \$1.7 million.

The Letcher County School System recently renovated Whitesburg High School, and constructed a new addition at the existing high school building and a new cafeteria at Fleming-Neon Elementary.

### Nonpublic Schools

<u>School</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Grades</u>
Calvary Christian Academy Elementary	40	K-8
Calvary Christian High School	20	9-12

### Area Colleges and Universities

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location (Miles distant)</u>	<u>Enrollment (Fall, 1990)</u>
Southeast Community College- Whitesburg Center	Whitesburg, Kentucky	470
Southeast Community College	Cumberland, Kentucky (24)	2,087
Alice Lloyd College	Pippa Passes, Kentucky (28)	548
Clinch Valley College of the University of Virginia	Wise, Virginia (29)	1,528
Hazard Community College	Hazard, Kentucky (31)	1,318
Pikeville College	Pikeville, Kentucky (49)	972
Lees College	Jackson, Kentucky (63)	352
Prestonsburg Community College	Prestonsburg, Kentucky (81)	2,446
Sue Bennett College	London, Kentucky (90)	517
Union College	Barbourville, Kentucky (97)	1,028
Lincoln Memorial University	Harrogate, Tennessee (97)	1,819

### Southeast Community College-Whitesburg Center

Southeast Community College-Whitesburg Center opened its campus in 1990. The College currently has an enrollment of 470 students, with a projection of over 500 students for the Fall 1991 semester. SCC-WC offers degree programs including an Associate in Science and an Associate in Arts. Courses are available which transfer to other state four-year institutions.



## Vocational Training

Vocational training is available at both the state vocational-technical schools and the area vocational education centers. The state vocational-technical schools are post-secondary institutions. The area vocational education centers are designed to supplement the curriculum of high school students. Both the state vocational-technical schools and the area vocational education centers offer evening courses to enable working adults to upgrade current job skills.

Arrangements can be made to provide training in the specific production skills required by an industrial plant. Instruction may be conducted either in the vocational school or in the industrial plant, depending upon the desired arrangement and the availability of special equipment.

### Bluegrass State Skills Corporation

The Bluegrass State Skills Corporation, an independent public corporation created and funded by the Kentucky General Assembly, provides programs of skills training to meet the needs of business and industry from entry level to advanced training, and from upgrading present employees to retraining experienced workers.

The Bluegrass State Skills Corporation is the primary source for skills training assistance for a new or existing company. The Corporation works in partnership with other employment and job training resources and programs, as well as Kentucky's economic development activities, to package a program customized to meet the specific needs of a company.

<u>Vocational School</u>	<u>Location (Miles distant)</u>	<u>Cumulative Enrollment 1989-1990</u>
Letcher County Area Vocational Education Center	Whitesburg, Kentucky	488
Hazard State Vocational-Technical School	Hazard, Kentucky (31)	712

## OTHER LOCAL FACILITIES

### Local Medical Personnel

Physicians - 32  
Dentists - 10

### Hospitals

<u>General Hospital</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Beds</u>
Whitesburg Appalachian Regional Hospital	Whitesburg	90
Jenkins Community Hospital	Jenkins	60

#### Whitesburg Appalachian Regional Hospital

Medical staff - 22 active staff physicians, 51 registered nurses,  
26 licensed practical nurses

#### Jenkins Community Hospital

Medical staff - 19 physicians, 22 registered nurses, 18 licensed  
practical nurses

Whitesburg Appalachian Regional Hospital recently completed two new additions including an ICU ward, and an OBT/GYN wing, and renovated its existing x-ray department.

### Other Medical Facilities and Services

Golden Years Rest Home (Jenkins)  
Daniel Boone Clinic  
Letcher County Health Department  
Letcher Manor  
P & B Ambulance Service

Mountain Comprehensive Health Corporation provides health care based on a sliding scale at the Whitesburg Clinic, the McRoberts Clinic, the Leatherwood-Blackey Clinic, and at special respiratory clinics in Whitesburg.

### Banks and Savings & Loan Associations

The Bank of Whitesburg  
First Security Bank and Trust Company

### Newspapers

Letcher County Community Press (weekly)  
The Mountain Eagle (weekly)

### Telephone Service

South Central Bell Telephone Company  
Continental Telephone Company (Jenkins)

## RECREATION AND CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS

### Local

#### Recreation

Letcher County maintains a public park which includes a swimming pool, four tennis courts, two playgrounds, a baseball diamond, and a football field. Private recreational facilities include a twin-cinema theatre, a country club, a golf course, a swimming pool, a skating rink, and a drive-in theatre.

Recreational projects under way in the Whitesburg area include the development of: Fish Pond Lake, a county fishing lake with picnic facilities; and the Riverside Community Park.

Nature Conservancy's Bad Branch Falls is located ten miles south of Whitesburg. This hiking area features a 60-foot waterfall and various endangered plant and animal species.

Daniel Boone and Jefferson National Forests, which lie in Kentucky and Virginia respectively, are located near Whitesburg. Hunting, fishing, hiking, and camping are permitted.

Carr Fork Lake, located about 20 miles north of Whitesburg, is a 710-acre flood control lake which provides excellent recreational facilities. Kentucky Highway 15 and 160 provides easy access to the lake area. The lake provides swimming, boating, productive fishing and a camping area with hookups and primitive campsites.

The Lilley Cornett Woods is located in Letcher County, approximately 30 miles east of Whitesburg. Guided tours are offered from April to October in the 554 acres of virgin woodland.

Development of new picnic areas and overlooks are under way at the Little Shepherd Trail. This is a 20-mile state-designated scenic route on the Pine Mountain ridge.

#### Culture

Appalshop, Inc., located in Whitesburg, is an award-winning, nationally acclaimed non-commercial arts and education center which produces and distributes film and television documentaries, recordings, radio programs, and plays focusing on the Appalachian region. The center consists of Appalshop Films, Headwaters Television, June Appal Recordings, Roadside Theatre, WMMT-FM, Appalachian Media Institute, and the Appalshop Center, which features an art gallery and a 175-seat theatre and presents a variety of performances and community activities throughout the year.

Letcher County Arts Council, Inc., promotes art, music, theatre, dance, writing, and other cultural programs in the area. High quality ballet, jazz and modern dance classes are offered in Whitesburg.

### Area Attractions (Within 60 miles)

Breaks Interstate Park  
Buckhorn Lake State Resort Park  
Jenny Wiley State Resort Park (includes outdoor theatre)  
Kingdom Come State Park



## COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS

Whitesburg was chosen as a "Kentucky Certified City" in 1990. The award is based on achievement in the following categories: Economic development (includes tourism or industrial development) community organizations, utilities, infrastructure, community appearance, downtown revitalization, education, and recreation. The Certified Cities Program is sponsored by the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce.

### Recent

The City of Whitesburg recently completed a renovation project for its existing wastewater treatment plant. The \$730,000 project included a new grit removal building, new sludge drying beds and post aeration facilities.

Southeast Community College-Whitesburg Center opened its campus in 1990. The college currently has an enrollment of 470 students, with a projection of over 500 students for the Fall 1991 semester.

The Letcher County School System recently renovated Whitesburg High School, and constructed a new addition at the existing high school building and a new cafeteria at Fleming-Neon Elementary.

Whitesburg Appalachian Regional Hospital recently completed two new additions including an ICU ward, and an OBT/GYN wing, and renovated its existing x-ray department.

Letcher Manor nursing home opened in 1990 in Whitesburg.

### Under Way

Two major highway improvement projects are under way in Letcher County including the widening and straightening of U.S. 119 near Whitesburg. U.S. 23 and 119 at Jenkins is being widened to four lanes.

Recreational projects under way in Whitesburg include the development of: Fish Pond Lake, a county fishing lake with picnic facilities; and the Riverside Community Park.

Development of new picnic areas and overlooks are under way at the Little Shepherd Trail, a 20-mile state-designated scenic route on the Pine Mountain ridge.

The City of Whitesburg is in the process of constructing a new city hall.

### Planned

Funding has been approved for the construction of a new water treatment facility for Whitesburg. Projected completion date is 1993.

The Jenkins Independent School System plans to renovate and expand the existing high school building. Details include: a four-classroom expansion; and a renovation of the cafeteria, art room, and entrance. Total cost of the project will exceed \$1.7 million.

Construction of a new library, county jail and renovation of the existing Courthouse are all planned projects for Letcher County.